



Congressman Marc Veasey

Champion for Comprehensive Immigration Reform

America's diversity is one of the most enduring qualities that make our country unique. As demographics rapidly change, I am inspired by the fact that Americans of all faiths, ethnicities, communities, and classes are coming together to ensure those immigrants who are voiceless, marginalized, and excluded are given the tools to contribute to the only country they have ever known. As the spotlight has shifted to the House of Representatives, we now have an opportunity to enact fair and just common-sense comprehensive immigration reform.

Since beginning my service in Congress in 2013, I have been a leader in championing for fair and common-sense immigration reform.

Below are some of my efforts in support of comprehensive immigration reform:

- Member of the **CBC Immigration Task Force** to ensure that the immigration dialogue focuses on the distinct communities affected by our broken and outdated immigration policies. All groups should be included in the conversation – that means Africans and the Caribbean community, Asian-Americans, the LGBT community, and young people brought here before the age of 16.
- Member of the **U.S. Mexico Friendship Caucus**, which is a bipartisan member organization to strengthen ties with the U.S. and Mexico. An open forum to discuss mutual areas of interest on expanding trade, economic opportunities, combating drug trafficking, migration and border issues.
- **Meeting with advocacy groups** and stakeholders like North Texas Dream Team, Proyecto Inmigrante, United Farm Workers, Border Network for Human Rights, United We Dream, Faith Leaders and LULAC to hear their concerns regarding comprehensive immigration reform.
- Hosted an **Immigration round-table** in the district with Congressman Luis Gutierrez, elected officials and community leaders from across the Metroplex to call for comprehensive immigration reform.
- Original Co-Sponsor of the **Reuniting Families Act** (HR 717), which allocates visas more efficiently, alleviates wait times that keep legal immigrants and their families separated for years, and decreases obstacles that prevent family members from obtaining visas.
- Co-Sponsor of the **Uniting American Families Act** (HR 519) which works to eliminate any discrimination in the current immigration law against same-sex, permanent partners who want to be reunited with their loved ones.
- **Co-sponsored H.RES. 155**, which expresses the necessity for the Members of the House of Representatives to use the term 'undocumented' instead of the term 'illegal' to encourage a national dialogue that is respectful of humanity and to frame a debate that is productive and free of terms that label a person's status in a negative connotation.

- **Signed onto a letter to House Leadership** with my colleagues asking that comprehensive immigration reform includes basic due process rights such as requiring that those detained by immigration authorities have a fair hearing before a judge and access to counsel, ensures that enforcement measures in immigration reform explicitly reject racial, religious and ethnic profiling and that all agencies involved in enforcement act, to the greatest possible extent, in a transparent fashion.
- **Voted Against** the Homeland Appropriations Bill for the upcoming fiscal year after a poison pill amendment was introduced that would defund the President's Deferred Action Executive Order for DREAMers. The amendment would effectively endanger 800,000 young undocumented immigrants who have no home other than the United States and only want a fair shot at an education and opportunity to pursue their passions out of the shadows.
- **Voted in favor** of the Polis, Chu, Cardenas Amendment for Homeland Security Appropriations **to defund** the highly controversial 287(g) program, known as "Secure Communities," made infamous by Sheriff Joe Arpaio and his racial profiling of Latinos in Maricopa County.
- **Hosted** a district screening of "The Dream Is Now," a new 30-minute documentary about undocumented youth in America, with Congressman Joaquin Castro to hear first-hand accounts of DREAMers and families torn apart as they wait for passage of comprehensive immigration reform. This event is free.
- **Stood in solidarity** with DREAMers and like-minded members of Congress to **reject a piecemeal approach** to immigration that falls short of a path to citizenship for the 11 million undocumented immigrants currently living in the U.S.

Thank you for your interest in these important issues. Please know that I have bilingual staff in offices located in Dallas, Fort Worth, and Washington, D.C. ready to assist you. Please visit, call, or write one of the offices below. Please **follow me** on Twitter @RepVeasey, "**like**" my **Facebook** page, and **subscribe** to my YouTube channel for more updates. For more information on immigration contact Nelly Decker in my Washington D.C. office.



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